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NCPTT NOTES

National Center for Preservation Technology and Training
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR • NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NOVEMBER 1997
NUMBER 21

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1998 PTTGrants

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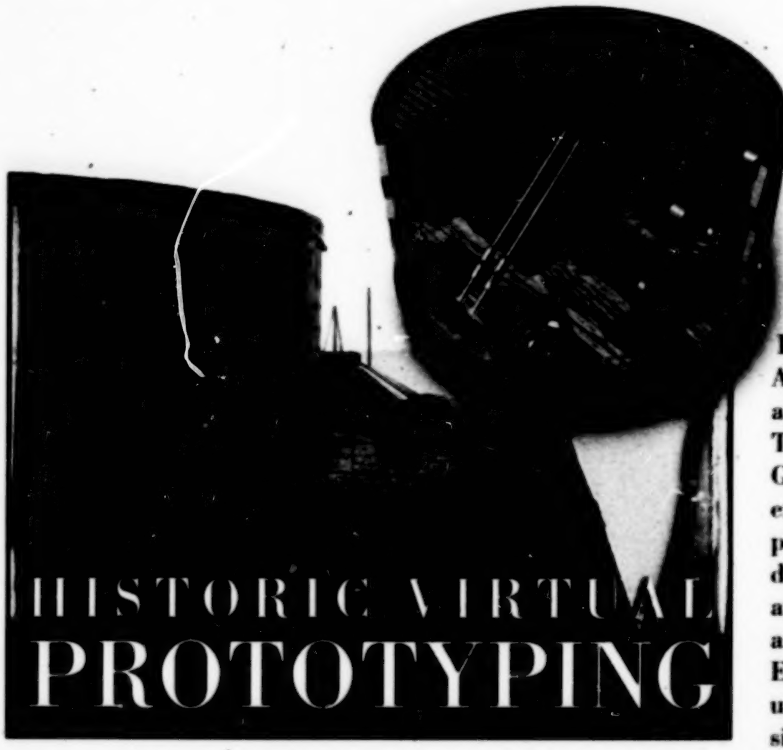

HISTORIC VIRTUAL PROTOTYPING

Computer modeling and simulation programs are used successfully in many industries to realistically evaluate the performance of a design prior to construction. Referred to as "virtual prototyping," this technology allows the development and operation of a system or product that has yet to be constructed or manufactured to be analyzed in a computer-generated environment.

This technology has found widespread use in naval engineering, where ships can be accurately modeled and their operations realistically simulated on computer. Behavior and interaction of the simulated components are modeled in accordance with laws of physics and principles of hydrodynamics. Ships can then be launched in a virtual ocean and maneuvers and operations conducted in various sea states and under selected environmental conditions. The flow of personnel and cargo also can be simulated and analyzed prior to construction, as well as complex system operations involving the deployment of equipment or launching of small boats and cargo container handling using shipboard cranes and other mechanically-aided operations.

The National Preservation Institute, with the help of Advanced Marine Enterprises and a 1995 Preservation Technology and Training Grants program award, has explored the use of virtual prototyping as a tool for documenting the movement and operation of historic ships and boats. Advanced Marine Enterprises has pioneered the use of computer modeling and simulation to build and operate ships and ship systems in virtual environments.

> As a documentation tool, virtual prototyping ... offers a new dimension to the documentation process by taking into consideration dynamic motion.

As a demonstration project, the subject selected for study was the famed Civil War ironclad, the USS Monitor. Using available historic documentation including

Deck and turret of U.S.S. Monitor, photo courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-B815-0659

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Comments and items of interest for the next newsletter should be sent to NCPTT's publications manager, Sarah B. Lester.

Preservation Profile: Carolyn Rose

Carolyn Rose with National Park Service Director Robert Stanton

Editor's note: This feature is the tenth profile in an occasional series that highlights the careers of people who motivate and guide preservation and conservation practice in the US.

Carolyn Rose is deputy chair of the Anthropology Department and senior research conservator at the National Museum of Natural History, where she has been employed in a variety of conservation and management positions since 1972. Deeply committed to conservation, few people have done more to advance the conservation profession in the United States. Ms Rose has worked tirelessly on behalf of the conservation community and over the years devoted considerable time and energy to many national and international professional organizations.

Ms Rose has held various posts and offices for the American Institute for Conservation, American Anthropological Association, International Council on Museums, National Institute for Conservation, International Institute for Conservation, International Biodeterioration Society, and the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections. As a founding member and former president of the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections, Ms Rose was responsible for organizing the first international symposium on the preservation of natural history collections. She also was instrumental in the development of the Conservation Assessment Program at the Institute for Museum and Library Services and, while chairman of the board of directors, played a critical role in "reinventing" the National Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Property.

An educator foremost, Ms Rose has taught dozens of courses and workshops on various aspects of conservation, particularly preventative conservation. In addition, she developed and directed the first anthropological graduate training program course in the US. Ms. Rose is presently adjunct associate professor in anthropology and art at George Washington University where she has lectured since 1973 and was instrumental in developing the Museum Studies Graduate Program. Nearly sixty graduate interns and thirty graduate students have benefited from her guidance, and more than one hundred students have taken her graduate courses.

Ms Rose has traveled extensively throughout the US and to nineteen countries to consult with museums on a range of issues including artifact storage and display, care and maintenance of collections, conservation assessments, and laboratory organization and management.

Ms Rose has authored or edited nearly 40 publications including six books —most recently the two-volume set, *Storage of Natural History Collections: I - A Preventative Conservation Approach* and *II - Ideas and Practical Solutions.*

In 1992, Ms Rose received the Rutherford John Gettens Merit Award from AIC for outstanding service to AIC, and that same year was awarded the Medal of Honor from the Duke of Calabria in Madrid, Spain, in recognition of her international leadership in conservation education and advancement of the field of natural history conservation. This year she was awarded the University Products Award for distinguished achievement in the field of conservation. In 1994 Ms Rose was appointed to NCPTT's advisory board — the Preservation Technology and Training Board.

Towards new guidelines for collections environments

Maintaining proper environmental conditions is one of the most important factors in the preservation of museum collections. Environmental factors such as temperature, relative humidity and light greatly affect the permanence of objects and materials. Over the past few years there has been much discussion in the United States about the benefits and risks of relaxing environmental standards. This has occurred primarily in response to new work undertaken by the Conservation Analytical Laboratory of the Smithsonian Institution — and partially funded by a 1994 Preservation Technology and Training Grants program award from NCPTT. The new work suggests that many museum objects can tolerate, without mechanical damage, larger fluctuations in relative humidity than previously thought.

This research has significant implications for defining appropriate environmental parameters for display and storage of museum collections and has advanced our knowledge and understanding of the museum environment and its impact on the long-term preservation of collections. Unfortunately, the interpretation of the results by the conservation community has led to misunderstanding and controversy.

In light of this confusion, the Conservation Analytical Laboratory, with NCPTT support, organized a three-day symposium in Washington, DC, September 3-5. The symposium had two chief goals: to critically assess existing environmental standards and recommendations for the display and storage of collections in light of recent research conducted in the US and abroad, and to aid the decision-making process by developing guidelines for the selection of appropriate environmental parameters for individual collections.

Symposium participation was by invitation only and limited to 20 participants in order to allow constructive discussion. Scientists and conservators from the US and abroad presented their views. A statement summarizing the symposium's findings has been made available to the conservation community (see sidebar "Symposium," below).

Symposium: New Guidelines for Collections Environments

September 3-5
Washington, DC

Summary of findings —

- Decisions on control parameters for a collection must start with the institution's mission and master plan.
- Important factors include the use of the collection and the constituency of the institution, frequency of access to the collection, and the character of the building where it is housed.
- Resources should be invested in mitigation of the greatest risk, which may be natural or man-made disasters, improper handling, inadequate security, or fire protection.
- If it is determined that environmental settings and fluctuations pose the greatest threat to the collections' survival, the first step is to make improvements to the building envelope that are appropriate for the building fabric and acceptable from a historic/aesthetic viewpoint.
- Conservators must determine whether deterioration of the collection is mostly chemical or physical (mechanical), how much of the collection is vulnerable to environmental damage, and how vulnerable.
- Different standards may be required for different types of collections, and the use of microclimates may be a strategy for protecting the most vulnerable parts.
- A well-controlled environment with humidity fluctuations of plus-or-minus five percent is considered the safest environment.
- Individual conditions can warrant the use of more relaxed standards than the usual plus-or-minus five percent humidity fluctuations. Risk of environmental damage may arise as larger fluctuations are permitted.
- For most institutions with mechanical climate control systems, relaxing the usual standards will not likely lead to great cost savings.

Historic Virtual Prototyping (continued)

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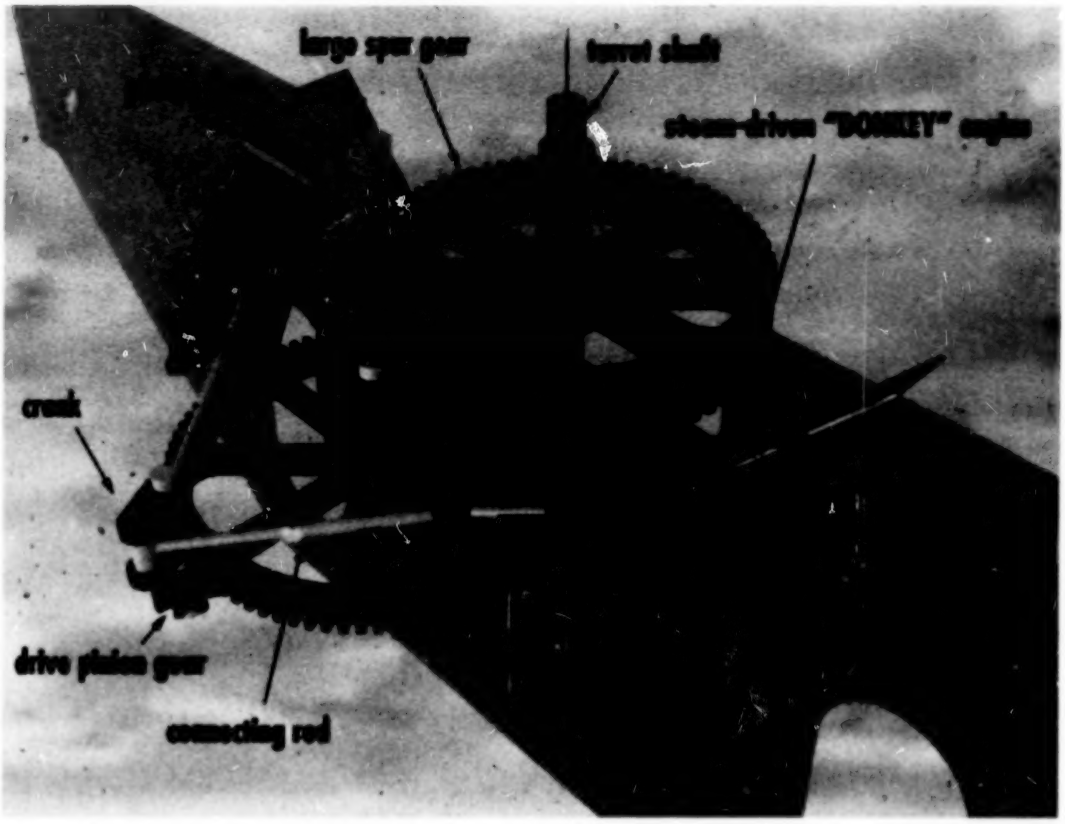
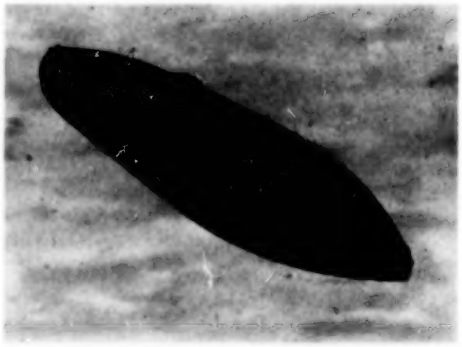
original drawings and measurements of the actual vessel, an accurate three-dimensional model was created and the USS Monitor reconstructed as a computer simulation. After assigning the model precise hydrodynamic behavioral characteristics consistent with existing engineering and structural data, the Monitor was then launched in a virtual ocean and its motion monitored under varying sea conditions.

Particular attention was given to the complex turret lifting and rotating system and its associated machinery, which was recreated and set in motion to demonstrate its operation. Loads and stresses on the various mechanical components also were analyzed.

As a documentation tool, virtual prototyping complements conventional static, isometric cutaway drawings and sections and offers a new dimension to the documentation process by taking into consideration dynamic motion. Needless to say, this technology has applications beyond the documentation of maritime vessels, chiefly in the interpretation of other cultural resources possessing moving parts and operational features.

Copies of final report on video (NCPTT Publications No. 97-06) may be obtained from Mark Gilberg, NCPTT Research Coordinator.





Several views of the virtual prototype model of the USS Monitor (top to bottom): turret rotational mechanism, exterior view of the Monitor at sea, cut away view through turret.

Advanced Marine Enterprises, Inc.
A Nichols Research Company

Advanced Marine Enterprises is a leader in the application of advanced technologies to naval engineering and a pioneer in simulation-based design and virtual prototyping. Its clients include the US Navy, Military Sealift Command, US Coast Guard, US Army Corps of Engineers and other maritime organizations and commercial clients. For additional information about Advanced Marine Enterprises see <http://www.advmar.com>.

Epoxy: recent developments and its preservation potential

Conservators and conservation scientists continue to seek new materials for use as consolidants in stone conservation. The ideal stone consolidant is a material that can penetrate decayed stone, bind it together and secure it to sound stone beneath the deterioration. The treatment should allow water to move in and out of the stone without substantial impedance, and should have minimal chemical and physical "side effects" such as color or gloss change. Also, the ideal consolidant should be safe to handle, easy to apply and affordable.

Recently, epoxy resins have been reconsidered as materials for consolidation. Development of epoxy resins started in the late 1930s and by the 1950s these resins were in wide commercial use. Epoxy resins have been used for preserving and consolidating various materials since the 1960s. However, their application has been controversial, primarily due to their change in color upon exposure to light and, to a lesser extent, due to their brittle nature.

Traditionally, in order to handle, formulate and apply epoxy resins, formulators employed solvent-borne resins or high solids resin systems. With increasing government regulations and environmental consciousness, and their associated costs, the use of organic solvents has become far less desirable. These factors have led to the development of water compatible systems such as Eponex© 1510 and waterborne systems such as EPI-REZ© waterborne resins and EPI-CURE© curing agents introduced by Shell Chemical Company. These systems offer innovative opportunities for the application of epoxy resins in preservation.

Low viscosity and resistance to color change are properties of Eponex© 1510 that may offer advantages in preservation. This water compatible product used with different types of curing agents has good potential for stabilizing very weak stone materials without noticeable discoloration. Although formulations like this one are needed for preservation purposes, chemical industries are not taking much interest because the preservation field represents a relatively small market.

Also, Shell offers a series of EPI-REZ© waterborne resin dispersions for civil engineering, adhesives, and structural applications that should be considered for preservation use. These waterborne resins are dispersed with surfactants that keep the resin particles suspended in the water phase with minimal settling of the particles over time. The use of non-ionic surfactants ensures that the products are compatible with most components that are mixed into resin systems, including fillers, defoamers, coupling agents, most latexes, polyurethanes, phenolic modifiers and other resins. The viscosity of waterborne systems can be modified by further dilution to achieve the preferred properties such as higher depth of penetration and ease of application. Some of the notable advantages and benefits of these waterborne products are low volatile organic compound (VOC) content, easy clean-up with water, easy blending with different waterborne resins for fine tuning resin performance, one-year shelf life, and compatibility with reactive and non-reactive modifiers.

Water-compatible and waterborne epoxies with various curing agents and modifiers may be promising materials for restoration and preservation of cultural property.

EPI-CURE© curing agents, also produced by Shell, are ultimately employed in a variety of end-use applications in civil engineering. Within preservation, these systems may provide: 1) ease of handling, 2) improved strength, 3) flexibility and toughness, 4) improved peel and impact strength, chemical, solvent and water resistance, and 5) the ability to alter the reactivity of the system. These curing agents can also speed the curing rate and be used at very low temperatures.

Various modifiers can be added to waterborne epoxy resins such as EPI-REZ© to adjust the viscosity or surface tension of a system and to change the final properties of the cured material. The addition of the HELOXY© epoxy functional modifiers to the waterborne dispersions can add flexibility, improve wetting, and increase chemical resistance and mechanical strength. (HELOXY© modifiers are epoxy functionalized alcohols, diols and polyols. The cycloaliphatic HELOXY© modifiers offer UV resistance when compared to aromatic modifiers.)

Continued on Page 8 ➨

Rakesh Kumar preparing deteriorated limestone wall at Xunantunich, Belize, for consolidant treatment.

Preservation Internet Discussion Forums

A listserv is an Internet discussion forum that takes the form of an e-mail mailing list. The term *listserv* comes from the software that is used to create and administer most of these lists. Unlike bulletin boards where messages are sent and saved to a central site for access by users, listserv messages are sent by individuals to a central site and then redistributed by the software to all e-mail subscribers to a list.

There are two e-mail addresses associated with every listserv — the listserv address for processing commands, such as subscribe or unsubscribe, and the list address for posting items for discussion. Participants subscribe to the list by sending a standard message to the listserv address. Messages meant for the discussion forum are posted to the list address. Messages sent to the list address are then sent to all list subscribers. Participants receive these messages in their e-mail and can respond or post new messages via e-mail.

The lists briefly described below are among many of the preservation-related discussion forums on the Internet. Others include lists associated with professional organizations, such as ACRA-L, or lists devoted to narrow topics of interest, such as XYLHIST-L on the history and archeology of timber-framed construction and roofs. More can be found in NCPTT's "Internet Resources for Heritage Conservation, Historic Preservation and Archeology" at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/ncptt/irg/>, or by exploring and searching on the Internet.

AIA-L

The AIA List is a moderated list operated by the Archaeological Institute of America. The listserv is intended to facilitate discussion of the broadest possible range of archeological issues and also to provide a forum for discussing technical and computer questions. To subscribe, send the following message to majordomo@brynmawr.edu: subscribe AIA-L yourname.

ARCHIVES

Archives (Archives & Archivists list) is for persons involved or interested in archival theory and practice. To subscribe, send the following message to listserv@listserv.muohio.edu: subscribe ARCHIVES yourname.

ARCH-L

The unmoderated Archaeology List was formed to facilitate discussions of archeological problems, especially those concerned with research, excavations, etc. To subscribe, send the following message to listserv@listserv.tamu.edu: subscribe ARCH-L yourname.

Conservation DistList

A moderated forum for professionals engaged in cultural materials conservation. To subscribe, send the following message to consdist-request@lindy.stanford.edu: subscribe consdist yourname.

HISTARCH

Begun in April 1994 for historical archeology, HISTARCH is designed to facilitate communication between people interested in topics such as New World Colonial archeology, material culture studies, and archeological method and theory. To subscribe, send the following message to listserv@asuvm.inre.asu.edu: subscribe HISTARCH yourname.

MUSEUM-L

The Museum Discussion List is a general-interest list for museum professionals and others interested in museum-related issues. To subscribe, send the following message to listserv@home.ease.lsoft.com: subscribe MUSEUM-L yourname.

PRESERVATION-L

This discussion forum is for individuals with an interest in architectural preservation. The list welcomes both professional and non-professional participants. The list is an opportunity to make contacts, discuss projects, or to talk about related issues in an informal manner. To subscribe, send the following message to majordomo@majordomo.netcom.com: subscribe preservation-L.

USICOMOS

Begun in May 1995, this listserv is open to all members of US/ICOMOS, the US Committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites, and others interested in the international aspects of heritage conservation and standards-setting. To subscribe, send the following message to majordomo@world.std.com: subscribe usicomos.

Workshop Report: Brookgreen Gardens

Conservator-guided assessment/monitoring tour of Brookgreen collection by Glenn Wharton.

The Conservation of Sculpture and Monuments Through a Conservator's Eye

August 21-23
Brookgreen Gardens
Murrells Inlet, South Carolina

Tours, lectures and demonstrations were offered to participants in a three-day August workshop on sculpture maintenance at Brookgreen Gardens, Murrells Inlet, South Carolina.

The Sculpture Conservation Workshop drew sixty-six participants from twenty-four states. Participants surveyed the field of sculpture conservation including condition assessment, treatment and maintenance, and conservation strategies.

Participants toured Brookgreen Gardens' collection of indoor and outdoor sculpture and saw the "American Masters" exhibition curated by Robin Salmon, Brookgreen curator. The Brookgreen staff also demonstrated maintenance methods during a conservator-guided assessment/ monitoring tour of the collections organized by Ted Monnich, conservator of the South Carolina State Museum.

Current research in sculpture preservation was the subject of presentations. Rosa Lowinger of the Los Angeles Sculpture Conservation Studio discussed the need to find suitable coatings for protecting sculpture from the environment. She cited anti-graffiti coatings, patinas, wax coatings and resins, and lacquer finishes, as well as the marble consolidation process.

Lynn Brostoff of the National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC, listed the ideal properties of a clear protective coating for outdoor bronze statuary and ornamentation and evaluated coatings currently used in conservation practice.

Mary Striegel of NCPTT's Materials Research Program discussed the research laboratory facility and collaborative projects undertaken by NCPTT with partners throughout the US.

Phoebe Dent Weil, private conservator from St. Louis, Missouri, asserted the need to consider the intent of the artist when scientists and art historians collaborate to protect work.

Glenn Wharton of Wharton & Griswold Associates, Inc., Santa Barbara, California, stressed the importance of hands-on experience with a conservator in creating a maintenance program that is flexible, systematic and well-documented. He provided a training video from the San Diego Museum of Art and a sample maintenance program.

Dennis Montagna, Director of the National Park Service's Monument and Research Preservation Program based in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, used his experience at Gettysburg National Military Park to explain the importance of maintenance, and gave a conservation history of the battlefield to show how conservation philosophy has changed.

Virginia Naudé of Norton Art Conservation, Inc., Lafayette Hill, Pennsylvania, emphasized the public process of bidding, the importance of contacting references and the importance of partnerships.

Susan Nichols of SOS! described fund-raising plans and examples of conservation projects, saying that research into local and state statutes can reveal who is responsible for maintenance.

Alexandra Klingelhofer of the Museum of Arts and Sciences in Macon, Georgia, led a conservators' group meeting during the workshop. Fran Gale, NCPTT, Training Coordinator, moderated a panel discussion on other issues and options in sculpture conservation.

The workshop was cosponsored by NCPTT, Save Outdoor Sculpture!, Southeastern Museums Conference, North Carolina Museums Council, South Carolina Federation of Museums, the Association for the Preservation of Historic Natchitoches, and Brookgreen Gardens.

The workshop was the recipient of a SOS!2000 Workshop Award and NCMC conservation funds for professional development. This project was undertaken as part of a two-year cooperative agreement between NCPTT and Louisiana State University that addressed outdoor sculpture survey and conservation. Sarah Luster, NCPTT Associate, served as workshop coordinator.

Workshop Report: Documentation Symposium

Workshop for Planning and Preservation Commissioners

A PTTGrants Training Workshop

September 1997
Lafayette, Louisiana

The work of local historic preservation commissions and the planners assigned to work with them involves complex legal issues, design review and other matters related to managing historic resources.

In many communities, training for commissioners is inadequate. To address this need, the University of Georgia's Office of Preservation Services and the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions developed a model Historic Preservation Short Course for local historic preservation and planning commissions.

Short course participants learn to integrate historic preservation and planning to achieve balanced and optimal solutions to community issues. NAPC plans to promote the short course in cooperation with state chapters of the American Planning Association to train planning commissioners throughout the US.

A model curriculum was piloted at the 1997 National Planning Conference in San Diego, California. Feedback from San Diego participants indicated the need for slight modifications to the curriculum and the case study in preparation for the Lafayette, Louisiana, workshop. NAPC partnered with the Louisiana Chapter of APA to conduct the short course as part of the chapter's annual meeting in Lafayette in September 1997. Faculty for the Louisiana short course included Noré Winter, urban design and preservation consultant with Winter & Company, Boulder, Colorado; Dwayne Jones, preservation planner with the Texas State Historical Commission; Genie Cooper, senior planner in the Historic Preservation and Urban Design Division of the San Antonio Planning Department; Pratt Cassity, Director of the Office of Preservation Services in the School of Environmental Design at the University of Georgia and Executive Director of the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions; William Borah, an attorney in New Orleans, Louisiana, specializing in transporation and land use issues; and Patricia Gay, Preservation Technology and Training Board member and Executive Director of the Preservation Resource Center of New Orleans.

The workshop attracted participants from both planning and preservation. Of the thirty-four participants, nineteen are affiliated with historic preservation commissions or organizations, and fifteen are affiliated with planning commissions or departments, or work as planning consultants. Participants were enthusiastic in their small group exercises, and evaluations of the workshop were extremely positive.

The short course highlighted areas where preservation and planning issues dovetail in an attempt to better unite preservation and planning interests by promoting preservation as a planning tool. In this one-day, interactive course, participants were presented with mini-lectures about historic preservation tools, legal issues, community and neighborhood economics, and design guidelines. Participants were then assigned a case study project and divided into groups to apply their newly acquired information.

All signs point to continued success with the model short course. Workshop faculty and participants emphasized repeatedly how much this type of training is needed not only to promote stronger partnerships between the fields of preservation and planning, but to encourage dissemination of information and training for planners and preservation commission members nationwide.

The next short course will be conducted at the National Planning Conference in Boston in April 1998.

—Lisa Vogel

Lisa Vogel is Public Service Assistant in the Office of Preservation Services of the School of Environmental Design at the University of Georgia. Ms Vogel also serves as a program assistant for NAPC.

Epoxy: recent developments continued from page 5

Water-compatible and waterborne epoxies with various curing agents and modifiers may be promising materials for restoration and preservation of cultural property. Recent research in epoxy chemistry has given us tools to solve the problems of viscosity, brittleness and yellowing. Scientists working in preservation should certainly consider developing and evaluating formulations that can be used as consolidants. Such developments may be cost-effective while providing all the required properties that conservation scientists, conservators and other cultural professionals are seeking in order to preserve our cultural heritage.

—Rakesh Kumar

NCPTT breaks ground on new headquarters

Jim McCrery, John Robbins, Wayne Coco, and Randall Webb at the ground breaking ceremony.

NCPTT is on its way home. In the swelter of late August Natchitoches, a ceremonial groundbreaking inaugurated the construction phase of rehabilitating an historic structure as NCPTT headquarters.

Congressman Jim McCrery, Natchitoches' representative in Congress, was the event's principal guest. Speakers included Congressman McCrery, Dr. Randall Webb, president of Northwestern State University of Louisiana, and John Robbins on behalf of NCPTT, Director Robert Stanton of the National Park Service, and the Preservation Technology and Training Board.

The building that will serve as NCPTT headquarters was constructed as the Women's Gymnasium for Louisiana State Normal School, a leading teacher training college in Louisiana. State Normal was founded in 1884 on the grounds and in the buildings of the Convent of the Sacred Heart, a French convent and school for girls and young women.

In the 1920s, State Normal responded to the evolution of Louisiana's statewide school curriculum, which included new emphasis on physical education and the resulting need for PE teachers. In 1922, State Normal hired its first physical education instructor and in 1923, State Normal's first physical education facility was completed — the Women's Gym. The 20,000-square foot building was designed by the New Orleans architectural firm of Favrot and Livaudais, the firm responsible for several decades of significant public structures throughout Louisiana, including the late nineteenth century Natchitoches Parish courthouse.

By 1929, State Normal was the twelfth largest teacher-training institution in the US, and Physical Education was a major component of the curriculum. As of 1930, students at State Normal could choose PE as a major course of study, the first program of its kind for women in Louisiana. The gymnasium continued in use through 1970, though it played a less prominent role after other physical education facilities — a men's gymnasium and a natatorium — were constructed under the Works Progress Administration in the 1930s. In 1939, facilities within the Women's Gym were updated to meet contemporary physical education standards, resulting in alterations throughout the building.

Since 1970, the gymnasium has been unused, and maintenance has focused on retaining the building shell intact. Throughout the building, interior finishes deteriorated severely or collapsed. Following passage of the National Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 1992 and the stipulation that NCPTT would be located at Northwestern State University of Louisiana — successor institution to State Normal —, the gymnasium was selected as NCPTT headquarters given its good location on the main street between town and campus, National Register status, appropriate size, and availability.

In 1993 an historic structure report was prepared for the gymnasium rehabilitation project by the Cultural Resources Center of the National Park Service's North Atlantic Regional Office. The report includes a history of the gym, thorough survey and analysis of conditions, and recommenda-

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International Preservation Trades Workshop

November 5-7
Frederick, Maryland

The Historic Preservation Training Center of the National Park Service, in partnership with the Preservation Trades Network — a task force of the Association for Preservation Technology International —, are hosting a two-and-one-half day workshop dedicated to preservation trades demonstrations. The workshop is sponsored by eighteen national preservation organizations with financial support from the National Park Service's Cultural Resources Training Initiative.

The keynote speaker will be Steve Thomas, host of WGBH's *This Old House*, who will discuss his career renovating old buildings.

The workshop will include technical sessions, tool-talk meetings, round-table discussions, opening and closing general sessions, and a unique workshop event, the "Construction Trailer" — all related to current preservation trades issues. The Construction Trailer includes a computer laboratory highlighting computer equipment, on-line services, material sources, references and a preview of coming trends — all especially relevant to the tradesperson.

Registration for the two-and-one-half day event is $250.00 per person (prior to October 1, 1997) and $295.00 (after October 1, 1997). Student scholarships are available; to qualify, applicants must be enrolled in a preservation program or a trades-related training institution.

To register and for further information contact Laurie Hempton, National Park Service, Historic Preservation Training Center, 4801-A Urbana Pike, Frederick, MD 21704, 301/663-8206, email <laurie_hempton@nps.gov>.

Historic County Courthouse Conference

November 6-9
Cincinnati, Ohio

This national conference is sponsored by the American Institute of Architects' Historic Resources Committee, and is the first nationwide summit on the topic since 1976.

The conference will address preserving and conserving historic county courthouses in today's demanding environment of ADA, tightened security and expanding electronic services.

Contact the AIA Professional Interest Area information line (800/242-3837 or 202/626-7457) for more information.

NCPTT breaks ground on new headquarters

Continued from page 9

Congressman Jim McCrery

tions for treatment and use. In 1994 the National Park Service contracted with the State of Louisiana to rehabilitate the gymnasium as NCPTT headquarters. Coco & Company/Wayne Lawrence Coco, AIA of Simmesport, Louisiana, serves as the state's project architect. NCPTT is consulting on the project, assisted by Preservation Technology and Training Board members Nicholas Gianopulos and F. Blair Reeves, FAIA.

The gymnasium was originally designed in two "blocks": a two-story classroom block, and a gymnasium block with a two-story basketball court above ground-floor dance and exercise studios and locker rooms. The two-story basketball court has its original suspended running track.

The rehabilitation design maintains the building's original configuration. The classroom block will house two laboratories, a classroom, seminar room and library. The gymnasium block will house NCPTT offices on the ground floor, a large meeting space in the original basketball court on the second floor, and NCPTT archives and study carrels on the suspended running track. The main space between the principal entrances on the ground floor will house an exhibit now in schematic design by Van Dam Renner Woodworth of Portland, Maine. The exhibit will interpret NCPTT's work and aspects of preservation and conservation practice, highlighting the roles of science and technology.

The ground breaking kicked-off the project's construction phase, which begins with hazardous materials abatement and selective demolition work. Construction work is out for bid; bids for exhibit fabrication and installation will be solicited in Spring 1998. We will keep our *Notes* readers posted on this very important project for NCPTT.

1998 Preservation Technology and Training Grants

NCPTT welcomes proposals for the 1998 Preservation Technology and Training Grants program from our preservation and conservation colleagues. Postmark deadline for proposals is December 19, 1997.

A Fall Call for Proposals brochure has been mailed to *NCPTT Notes* subscribers. Information in the brochure also is available from NCPTT's fax-on-demand computer (telephone 318/357-3214 and follow recorded instructions), NCPTT's World Wide Web site, and via return e-mail (send a blank message to <pttgrants@alpha.nsula.edu>).

The 1998 PTTGrants program has eight application categories: 1) information management, 2) education and training, 3) applied and fundamental research, 4) environmental effects of outdoor pollutants on cultural resources, 5) technology transfer, 6) analytical facility support, 7) conference support, and 8) publications support.

Applicants should review the 1998 PTTGrants Fall Call for Proposals information and PTTGrants awards summarized in *Notes* 20 prior to contacting NCPTT to discuss applications.

1998 PTTGrants will be awarded subject to availability of funds.

1998 PTTGrants Fall Call for Proposals: Clarifications/Corrections

Please note the following clarifications/corrections to the 1998 PTTGrants Fall Call for Proposals. Page numbers refer to the 1998 PTTGrants brochure recently distributed.

1 Page 3: After *Foreign organizations*, substitute "For- and non-profit organizations may submit PTTGrants proposals only in partnership with an eligible US academic institution, organization or government agency. To ensure that US partners are substantially involved in projects submitted in collaboration with organizations outside of the US, PTTGrants funds may support only aspects of projects that are undertaken or managed directly by US partners."

2 Pages 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19 and 21: To the end of the *Note* that follows item 7.k under *Project Description*, add "This note does not apply to Federal agencies."

3 Page 23: Dr. Neville Agnew's name was inadvertently deleted from the list of Preservation Technology and Training Board members. Dr. Agnew is Associate Director for Programs at the Getty Conservation Institute.

About the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training

The National Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 1992 established the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, NCPTT's advisory board — the Preservation Technology and Training Board — and NCPTT's Preservation Technology and Training Grants program as a national initiative to coordinate and promote research, distribute information, and provide training about preservation skills and technologies.

NCPTT is part of the Washington office of the National Park Service under the Associate Director, Cultural Resource Stewardship and Partnerships. NCPTT is located on the campus of Northwestern State University of Louisiana in Natchitoches, Louisiana.

New Training Assistant

NCPTT welcomes [illegible] Richmond, a graduate student at Northwestern State University in the History/Cultural Resource Management program, who will work with the Training Component.

Richmond has an undergraduate degree in English Education and a graduate degree in English with a folklore emphasis.

Past accomplishments include [illegible] of the Natchitoches/NSU Folk Festival for [illegible] years, [illegible] with the Louisiana Folklife Festival for three years, member of the Louisiana Folklife Commission, editor of the *Louisiana Folklife* magazine, instructor of English at Northwestern State University-Leesville Campus for three years, and two folklore programs funded by state grants.

Richmond will be working with the training activities database to incorporate information from trade unions, conservation organizations, School-to-Work programs, and Welfare-to-Work programs.

Our Mission

United States Department of the Interior
As the nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally-owned public lands and natural and cultural resources. This includes fostering sound use of our land and water resources; protecting our fish, wildlife and biological diversity; preserving the environment and cultural values of our national parks and historic places; and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to ensure that their development is in the best interests of all our people by encouraging stewardship and citizen responsibility in their care. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under US Administration.

National Park Service
The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education and inspiration of this and future generations. The Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

National Center for Preservation Technology and Training
The National Center for Preservation Technology and Training promotes and enhances the preservation of prehistoric and historic resources in the United States for present and future generations through the advancement and dissemination of preservation technology and training.

NCPTT, created by Congress, is an interdisciplinary effort by the National Park Service to advance the art, craft, and science of historic preservation in the fields of archeology, historic architecture, historic landscapes, objects and materials conservation, and interpretation. NCPTT serves public and private practitioners through research, education, and information management.

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